

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 06833 101729Z

70

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 /016 W
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R 101427Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5104

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 6833

BEIRUT FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC AFSP

SUBJECT: SECOND COLLISION OF COM VEHICLE AND POLICE FOLLOW CAR

1. FOR SECOND TIME IN LESS THAN TWO WEEKS COM VEHICLE AND POLICE SECURITY FOLLOW CAR WERE INVOLVED IN AN ACCIDENT. ON JULY 8 WHILE AMBASSADOR AND CODEL BONKER WERE TRAVELLING TO MAAMURA (ALEXANDRIA) FOR APPOINTMENT WITH PRESIDENT SADAT, GOE OWNED FOLLOW CAR PLOWED INTO REAR OF COM'S PARTIALLY ARMoured 1974 BUICK. AMBASSADOR EILTS AND CONGRESSMAN BONKER WERE IN BUICK AT TIME OF ACCIDENT; LUCKILY, NO ONE WAS INJURED AND ONLY DAMAGES SUSTAINED BY BUICK WERE BROKEN LEFT REAR LIGHT COVERS. DAMAGE TO POLICE CAR WAS MORE EXTENSIVE.

2. RSO HAS SPOKEN TO SENIOR OFFICER WITH AMBASSADOR'S PROTECTIVE DETAIL AND EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR POLICE DRIVER TO USE DEFENSIVE DRIVING TECHNIQUES WHILE PROVIDING NECESSARY SECURITY SUPPORT. IN REVIEWING CAUSE OF COLLISION, IT APPEARS THAT AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER WAS SPEEDING --WEAVING IN AND AROUND HEAVY CITY TRAFFIC AND STOPPED SUDDENLY. WHILE THE POLICE WERE TECHNICALLY AT FAULT, THE BLAME MUST ALSO BE SHARED BY THE AMBASSADOR'S DRIVER. HE HAS BEEN GIVEN A LECTURE RELATING TO SAFE DRIVING. AMBASSADOR HAS ALSO GIVEN HIM DRESSING DOWN. HIS APOLOGY WAS HE WAS TRYING GET CODEL TO PRESIDENTIAL AUDIENCE IN TIME FOR SCHEDULED MEETING.

3. POST HAS NOT SCREENED THE DEFENSIVE DRIVING FILM SINCE RSO'S
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ARRIVAL IN MAY 1974. SUGGEST A/SY OR RSS SEND FILM TO CAIRO

AND GIVE AUTHORITY TO SHOW MOVIE TO SELECTED EMBASSY FSL
CHAUFFEURS.

4. REQUEST DEPT. PURCHASE FOLLOWING REPLACEMENT PARTS FOR BUICK:

- A. L.H. STOP LIGHT ASSEMBLY
- B. BACK-UP LIGHT ASSEMBLY

ONCE COSTS ARE FIGURED, ADVISE. CAIRO WILL FUND.
EILTS

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NNN

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